Froclamation

Matthew G. Bebin Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

- WHEREAS, Asthma has reached epidemic proportions in the United States affecting an estimated 24.6 million people including nearly 403,500 Kentucky adults and 112,200 Kentucky children; and
- WHEREAS, Asthma is one of the leading causes of childhood hospitalizations, long-term illness, and school absenteeism in Kentucky; and
- WHEREAS, Asthma leads to an estimated \$399 million in direct medical costs and nearly \$46 million in indirect costs each year according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and
- WHEREAS, Asthma is a long-term, inflammatory disease in which the airways of the lungs constrict causing wheezing, breathlessness, chest tightness, and coughing; and
- WHEREAS, Early diagnosis and treatment according to evidence-based guidelines can reduce asthma attacks and improve the quality of life for people with asthma; and
- Exposure to allergens and irritants such as dust mites, mold, cockroaches, pet dander, WHEREAS, and secondhand smoke can bring on an asthma attack and there are simple steps that schools, workplaces, and people with asthma can take to reduce their exposure to environmental asthma triggers; and
- WHEREAS, The Kentucky Asthma Partnership is committed to reducing asthma related hospitalizations and emergency room visits and missed school days for children, and improving quality of life for people with asthma through public awareness, asthma education for school and daycare personnel, improved systems of care, and public policy development;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MATTHEW G. BEVIN, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2017 as

ASTHMA AWARENESS MONTH

in Kentucky.

DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort this 16th day of May, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Seventeen and in the 225th year of the Commonwealth.

GOVERNOR

ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIME **SECRETARY OF STATE**

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